Defense Switched Network (DSN) IA Product Certification Process Brief

DISA/GS23

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OVERVIEW

Authority - DOD Instruction 8100.3

Section 353 of Public Law 107-314 establishes statutory requirements for installation and connection policy and procedures regarding DSN.

DoDi 8100.3 - Telecommunications switches (and associated software releases) procured or leased by DoD Components, and connected or planned for connection to the DSN, shall be **both interoperability** and **IA certified and accredited**.

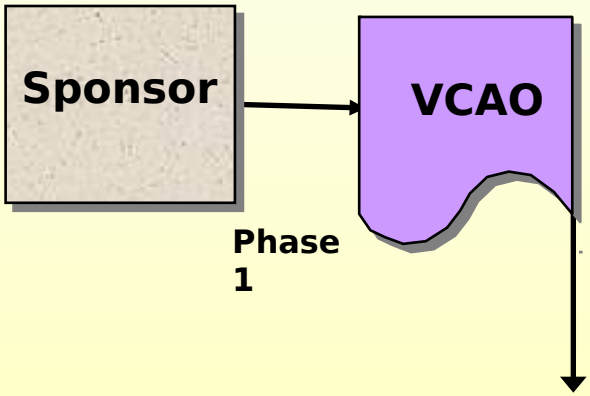
- **Use only telecommunications switches** listed on the DSN telecommunications switch **Approved Products List (APL**), published by the **DSN SSM**
- **Only** the ASD(NII)/DoD CIO is **authorized to approve** Interim Certification to Operate (ICTO) wavier to DSN policy requests.

DSN Switch Certification and Accreditation Processes

Overview of DSN Telecommunications Switch Interoperability Certification, Information Assurance Accreditation, Approval Products List, and ICTO/Waiver Processes

- DSN Telecommunications Switch Joint Interoperability Certification (JIC) and
  Information Assurance (IA) Certification and Accreditation Process
- Joint Interoperability Certification (JIC) ICTO Process
- Information Assurance (IA) Certification and Accreditation ICTO Process
- Strategy Plans for Fielded Unapproved Switches

Connecting a Switch/Component to the DSN – Phase 1 Submission



➢The **Sponsoring Agent** should first determine if the Component is already on the Approved Product List. http://jitc.fhu.disa.mil/.

➢Will the device be used in **same configuration** that's **approved** on the **APL?**

➢If **not**, the Sponsoring Agent submits the Switch, via the DSN VCAO, for JIC and IA test scheduling.

Voice Connection Approval Office

➢**The Sponsoring Agent** will submit their product via an electronic submittal form

➢**The Voice Connection Approval Office** coordinates details for scheduling the solution for Joint Interoperability and Information Assurance Testing

➢ **The VCAO** will notify the Sponsoring Agent of test schedule and provide the Sponsoring Agent\Vendor with a JITC "Rules of

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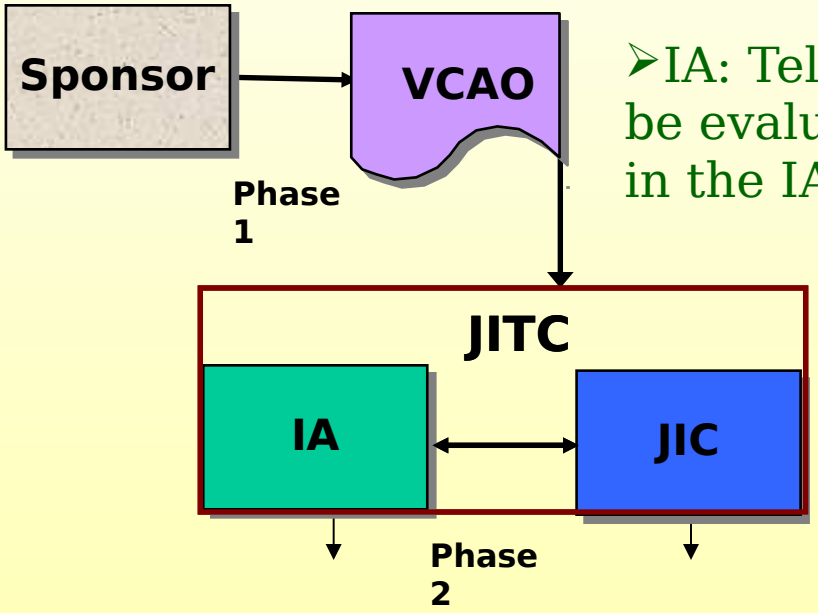
Connecting a Switch/Component to the DSN - Phase 2 Testing



➢IA: Telecom switch security features will be evaluated against test criteria developed in the IATP.

➢ JIC: Switch interoperability will be evaluated with new & existing technologies, and MUF IAW the Generic Switch Test Plan (GSTP).

The **VCAO** will track testing status and take the following actions based on results:

- Review the Certification Test Results and submit report to Single System Manager
- Notify the Sponsoring Agent\Vendor of Test results
- Schedule outbrief between JITC and the Sponsoring Agent/Vendor if requested

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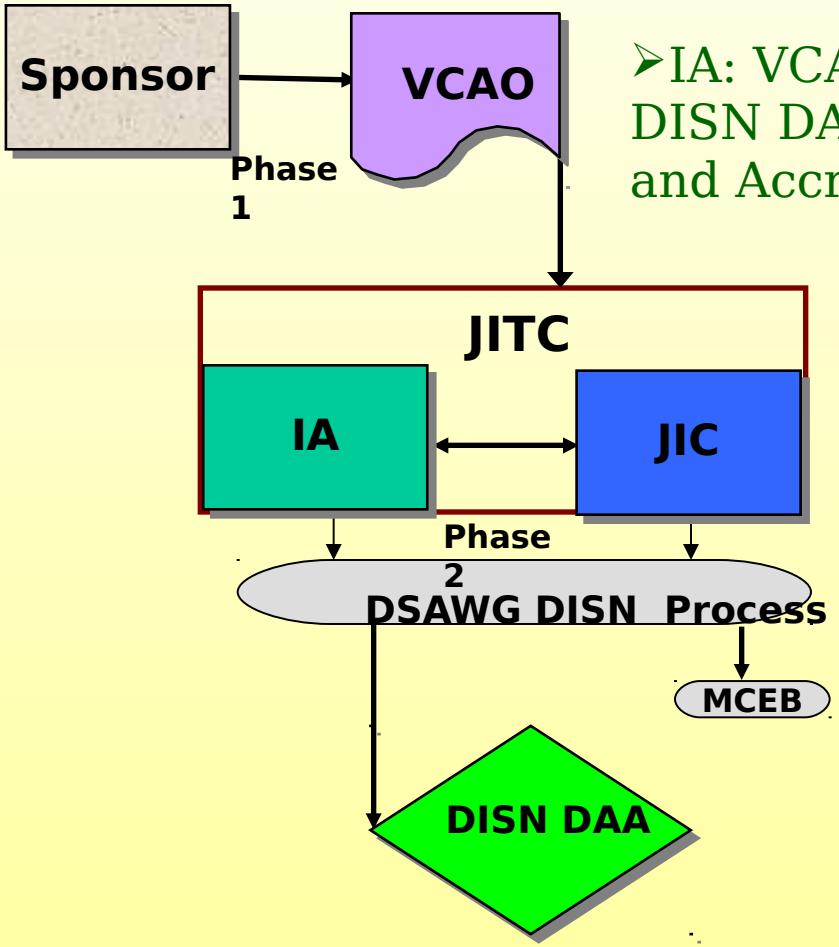
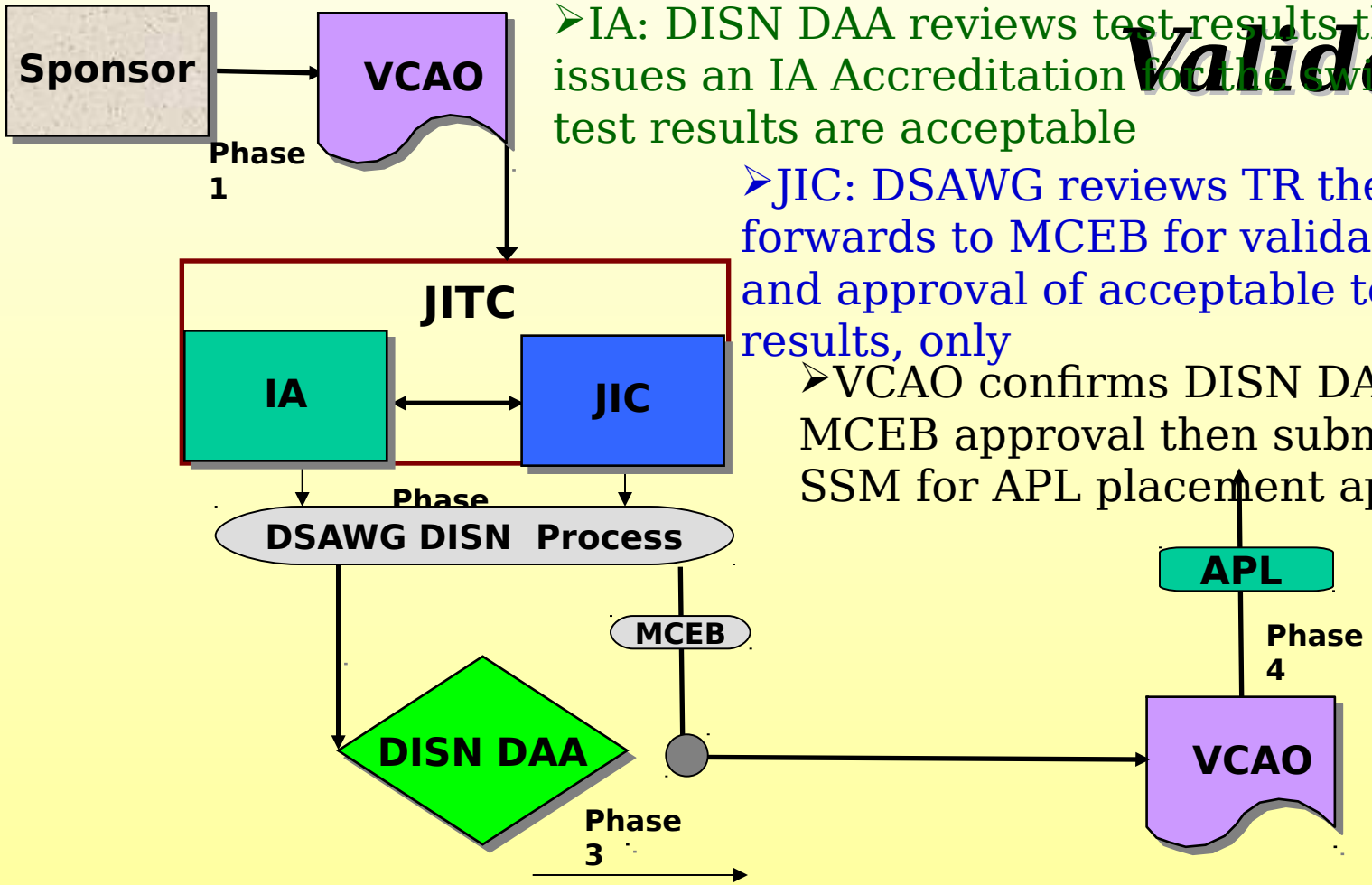
Connecting a Switch/Component to the DSN - Phase 3 Validation



- IA: VCAO submits IA test results to the DISN DAA via the DSAWG for Validation and Accreditation Decision.
- JIC: VCAO submits JIC CA report to MCEB via the DSAWG for Validation of favorable results,only
- VCAO with notify the Sponsoring Agency of options if the switch fails either the IA or JIC testing

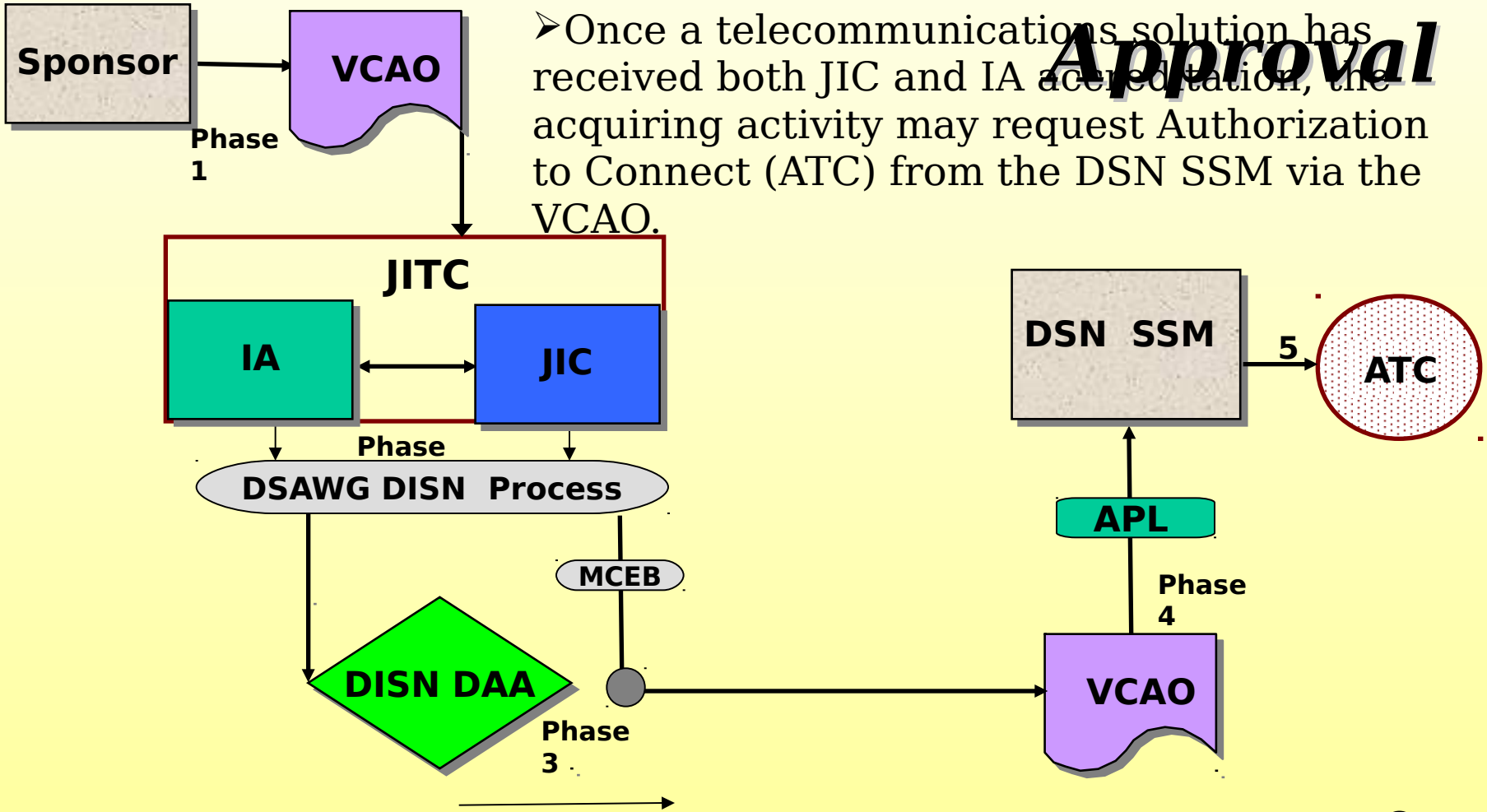
Connecting a Switch/Component to the DSN - Phase 4 Validation



- IA: DISN DAA reviews test results then issues an IA Accreditation for the switch if test results are acceptable
- JIC: DSAWG reviews TR then forwards to MCEB for validation and approval of acceptable test results, only
- VCAO confirms DISN DAA and MCEB approval then submits to SSM for APL placement approval

Connecting a Switch/Component to the DSN - Phase 5 Approval

- Once a telecommunications solution has received both JIC and IA accreditation, the acquiring activity may request Authorization to Connect (ATC) from the DSN SSM via the VCAO.



What happens if the sponsored product does not receive a favorable recommendation and the agency still desires to use the product?

Policy - DoDi 8100.3 6.3.4

If a telecommunications switch **has not received a JIC and/or IA accreditation**, and there is an urgent operational requirement for installation and connection.

- The acquiring activity may request a **JIC ICTO** or develop and submit an **IA mitigation strategy** for consideration, as appropriate.

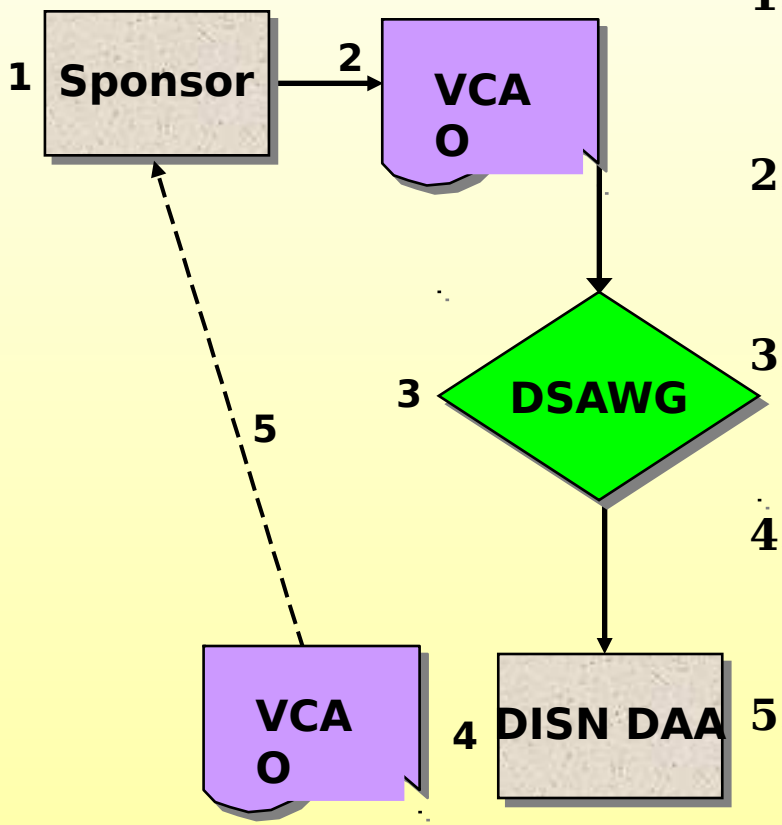
- JIC ICTO requests shall be routed through the chain of command via the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

- The **MCEB** shall provide a recommendation to **ASD(NII)/DoD CIO** for approval of a JIC ICTO via the GIG waiver process.

- IA mitigation strategies shall be routed for approval via the VCAO.

- The **DSAWG** shall provide a recommendation to the **DISN DAA**

Information Assurance Mitigation Submittal Process



1. **Sponsoring Agency** notifies their respective Certification Authority of intent then **submits Mitigation Plan** to VCAO
2. **VCAO notifies** the SSM then forwards the **Mitigation Plan** to the DSAWG on behalf of the SA
3. **DSAWG reviews** the Mitigation Plan forwards **recommendations** to the DISN DAA
4. **DISN DAA** reviews IA Mitigation Plan then issues final decision to accept or reject; there is no appeal process
5. **VCAO notifies** Sponsoring Agent /Vendor of DAA's decision.

Waivers to Policy and ICTO Requests.

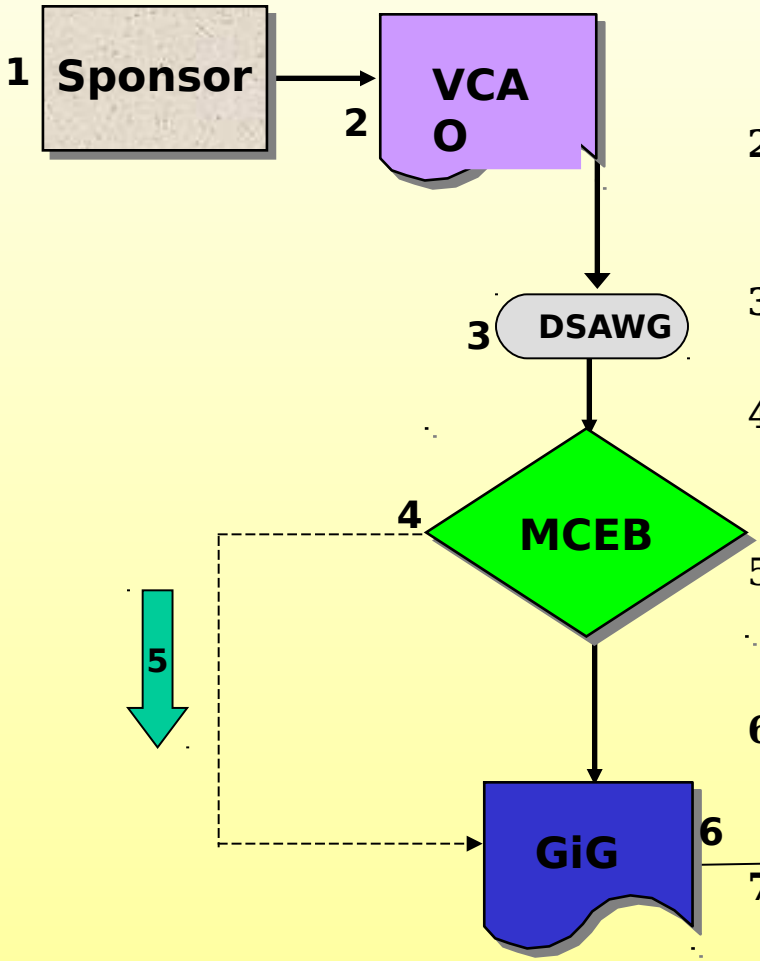
➢A **JIC ICTO** shall **only be granted** under the following **conditions:**

- An urgent operational need, validated by the operational chain of command and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, requiring switch fielding prior to testing.

- Telecommunications switches that are under test and the DISA (JITC) is unable to assess all required interfaces.

- A waiver to policy has been **granted** by the ASD(NII)/DoD CIO.

JIC ICTO Wavier and Appeal Process



1. **Sponsoring Agency** notifies their respective Certification Authority of intent then submits ICTO wavier request to the VCAO
2. **VCAO** notifies the **SSM** then forwards the ICTO request to the DSAWG on behalf of the Sponsoring Agency
3. **DSAWG reviews** the request then **forwards** to the Joint Chiefs of Staff's MCEB for a decision
4. **MCEB approves** or denies the request; if approved the request with **recommendation** is forwarded to the GIG Wavier Panel
5. If **MCEB disapproves**, the VCAO notifies the Sponsoring Agent of GIG Wavier Panel appeal process, **if desired**
6. **Gig Wavier Panel reviews** request, makes recommendation then forwards request to ASD/CIO for final decision
7. **ASD/CIO issues final decision** on ICTO Wavier**

** **Maximum Time for a Wavier is 1 year**
- SA must submit transition plan

JIC ICTO Wavier Approval Conditions

- **Waivers to policy** or ICTOs shall not be granted for a **period of more than one year**. Only in exceptional circumstances, and with ASD(NII)/DoD CIO approval be granted.

- The acquiring activity **shall provide,** within **30 days of receipt**, a **PoA&M** for certifying or transitioning uncertified switches connected to the DSN or DRSN when a waiver or ICTO has been granted.

- When a telecommunications **switch does not meet** DSN **MUF** and/or other operational or functional requirements, a **waiver must be first granted** by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff prior to requesting a JIC ICTO.

Strategy Plans: Fielded Uncertified or Unaccredited Switches

- **For uncertified or unaccredited telecommunications switches already deployed in the field:**

  - Telecommunication switches determined to be an **acceptable technical, security,**

    and mission risk may be submitted to the DISA for JIC or IA testing, if not the

    operating activity must obtain a JIC ICTO for the intervening period.

  - Telecommunication switches determined to be **an unacceptable technical, IA or**

    mission risk by the DISA or by the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall be

    considered **for disconnection from the DSN**

DEFENSE INFORMATION SYSTEMS AGENCY